

House Resolution 80

By: Representatives Heckstall of the 62nd, Brooks of the 63rd, Sinkfield of the 60th, Bruce of the 64th, Holmes of the 61st, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging that the person or persons responsible for moving the portrait of Grace Towns
2 Hamilton to the third floor post office of the State Capitol return it to its place among the
3 portraits of distinction in the Georgia Capitol building; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Grace Towns Hamilton was the first African American woman to serve in the
5 Georgia General Assembly, a position which she held from 1966 to 1984; and

6 WHEREAS, Ms. Hamilton was among eight African Americans elected to the General
7 Assembly in 1965 who were the first to enter the Georgia House of Representatives since the
8 end of Reconstruction; and

9 WHEREAS, Ms. Hamilton was principal architect of the 1973 Atlanta city charter, and her
10 legacy as a legislator and civil rights advocate includes expanding educational opportunities
11 for African American school children, improving health facilities, providing help for the
12 indigent, and protecting the rights of the disenfranchised; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Hamilton played a prominent role in the history of the State of Georgia, and
14 the third floor post office, a location inaccessible to the general public, is not an appropriate
15 location for the portrait of a figure of her importance and stature and is disrespectful to her
16 legacy of dedicated public service to the State of Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, Ms. Hamilton's portrait was originally displayed among the portraits of
18 distinction in the Georgia State Capitol; and

19 WHEREAS, Grace Towns Hamilton's portrait should be accessible to school children
20 visiting the Georgia Capitol and to all citizens of the State of Georgia.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that

- 1 this body urges the responsible party to remove the portrait of Grace Towns Hamilton from
- 2 the third floor post office and return it to its original and rightful location among the portraits
- 3 of distinction in the Georgia State Capitol.